FD-302 (Rev. 3-3-59) FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date 11/23/63

Other Individuals and Organizations Interviewed

Mr. ADRIAN T. ALBA, 624 Focis Street, Metairie, Louisiana, owner and operator of the Crescent City Garage, 618 Magazine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, telephonically advised at 3:45 p.m., November 23, 1963, that he had been told by MR. JESSE MC NEIL, his relief Manager at the Crescent City Garage, that after SA DAVIS was at the garage on November 23, 1963, an unknown man had gone there and spoken to MR. MC NEIL. He quoted MR. MC NEIL as saying the man stated he was a friend of MR. ALBA and that he would like to borrow MR. ALBA's gun magazines. He continued that MR. MC NEIL described the man who made this request as being a white male of heavy build, black hair, who was well dressed wearing a sport coat.

MR. ALBA stated he could recall no friend of this description who would be interested in borrowing his gun magazines.

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on 11/23/63 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 89-69

by Special Agent LESTER G. DAVIS/cw/nc Date dictated 11/23/63

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FD-302 (Rev. 3-3-59) FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Other Individuals or Organizations Involved or Interviewed — Date 11/23/63

Mr. ADRIAN T. ALBA, residence 624 Focis Street, Metairie, Louisiana, advised that he owns and operates the Crescent City Garage, 618 Magazine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Mr. ALBA advised that he knew LEE OSWALD while OSWALD was employed at the William B. Reily and Company, Inc. next door to his garage. He stated that employees of the latter company would occasionally get cold drinks from the dispensing machine at his place of business and would sit in the waiting room of his office, drink their soft drinks and look at magazines which he maintained there. He explained that he, ALBA, was a gun collector and recalled that OSWALD showed an intense interest in guns and talked freely about guns. He stated OSWALD seemed to have quite a good knowledge of firearms. He recalled that on one occasion, the exact date of which he could not set, he had ordered a carbine from the National Rifle Association at a cost of $30.00. In discussing this, OSWALD wanted to know if ALBA could get one for him also. Mr. ALBA stated he advised OSWALD that he could get this gun at this price as a member of the National Rifle Association and each member was allowed to purchase only one. He continued that OSWALD told him to go ahead and get the carbine and that he, OSWALD, would make an offer on the gun that Mr. ALBA could not afford to turn down.

Mr. ALBA stated he did not sell this or any other gun to OSWALD nor has he ordered a gun of any type for OSWALD.

He further recalled that OSWALD showed an intense interest in a Japanese rifle that Mr. ALBA had had customized as a part of his gun collection. He recalled that OSWALD was interested in the number of inches that had been cut from the

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barrel of this gun and was interested in the twist of the rifling. Mr. ALBA pointed out that he usually cleaned his guns at his office to avoid any accident to his children at home, and this is why OSWALD knew of his guns and saw some of them. He recalled that OSWALD would "bury himself" in the gun magazines kept on the coffee table in the waiting room of the garage and otherwise seemed very quiet and smug.

Mr. ALBA recalled that on one occasion, the exact date of which he could not set, OSWALD asked to borrow one of his gun magazines and took it with him. He could not identify the magazine which OSWALD borrowed recalling that OSWALD was reading it and had it open at the time he asked to borrow it. He therefore did not see the magazine cover and did not ask OSWALD which magazine he was referring to. He further recalled that a few days later OSWALD mentioned to him that he had returned the magazine indicating he had replaced it on the coffee table. Mr. ALBA stated he did not see OSWALD return the magazine or check concerning it. He advised he in fact maintained no check on the magazines which he gets by subscription and by purchase from magazine counters and keeps no track of persons who read them.

In order to determine if he was talking about the right man, Mr. ALBA checked the photograph of LEE HARVEY OSWALD in the November 23, 1963, issue of the Times-Picayune, New Orleans newspaper. Upon looking at the photograph of OSWALD who was described as being in custody at Dallas, Texas, in connection with the assassination of President JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY, Mr. ALBA stated that this was a photograph of the LEE OSWALD he was referring to and the person who borrowed his gun magazine.

Mr. OSWALD made available his supply of gun magazines which were maintained in the waiting room of the Crescent City Garage referred to above. These consist of the following:

June, 1963, issue of "The American Rifleman"

July, 1963, issue of "The American Rifleman"

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September, 1963, issue of "The American Rifleman"

October, 1963, issue of "The American Rifleman"

November, 1963, issue of "The American Rifleman"

January, 1964, issue of "Guns and Hunting"

December, 1958, issue of "Field and Stream"

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Other Individuals and Organizations Involved Date 11/25/63

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MR. ADRIAN ALBA, 624 Focis Street, Metairie, Louisiana, who operates the Crescent City Garage, 618 Magazine Street, New Orleans, advised that he now recalls an additional conversation he had with LEE H. OSWALD who was formerly employed at William B. Reily and Company, Inc. Coffee Plant next door to his garage. He explained that being a gun collector, he, ALBA, had one of his rifles at the garage office, cleaning it, and OSWALD saw it. He was interested in the gun and during conversation concerning it spoke about and discussed the merits of small caliber and larger caliber bullets. He recalled that OSWALD mentioned that a smaller caliber bullet was more deadly than a larger one, to which point ALBA agreed.

MR. ALBA stated that in the several conversations he had with OSWALD concerning firearms, OSWALD was only interested in rifles. He explained that OSWALD never spoke of pistols or other guns but on one occasion commented that the carbine was indeed the finest of all rifles. He believed that OSWALD preferred the carbine over any gun made, although he did show interest in other type rifles such as a Japanese rifle ALBA had at his office on one occasion cleaning it.

MR. ALBA expressed the opinion that OSWALD would necessarily have had a great deal of practice in firing a rifle with a scope sight to have been able to "get off as many shots" as he did during the assassination of President KENNEDY at Dallas, Texas. He further explained that having had experience in shooting rifles with scope sights he knows that it takes a period of time for one to adjust his eyesight to the image at which he is firing after each shot. He added that this is not as easy as an open sight and that a bolt action rifle would add to the time necessarily consumed in firing such a rifle. He therefore believed that OSWALD had much practice in firing a gun of this type.

MR. ALBA advised, however, that he knew of no rifle practice which OSWALD had engaged in while in New Orleans, adding that from his conversation with OSWALD he did not believe that OSWALD belonged to any of the local gun clubs. He added that it would have been almost impossible for OSWALD to practice with a rifle around New Orleans unless he belonged to a gun club.

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by Special Agents LESTER G. DAVIS & JOHN WILLIAM MILLER/bal/nc Date dictated 11/25/63

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The seven gun magazines furnished by Mr. ADRIAN T. ALBA, Operator of the Crescent City Garage, 618 Magazine Street, as being the magazine possibly read by LEE H. OSWALD, were forwarded to the FBI Laboratory on November 23, 1963. These were forwarded with other material to be examined for any latent fingerprints of OSWALD and for examination as to indented writing. The Laboratory was also requested to compare the portion of page 59 where an order blank had been torn from an advertisement of "Klein's", a sporting goods company in Chicago, Illinois, an order blank believed to have been mailed by suspect OSWALD to this company.

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